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Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

Thailand:* draft resolution

Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/178 of 20 December 2010, 66/220 of 22 December 2011, 67/228 of 21 December 2012, 68/233 of 20 December 2013, 69/240 of 19 December 2014 and 70/223 of 22 December 2015,

Recalling also the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, and noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[2] as well as the Framework for Action,[3] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[4] Agenda 21,[5] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[6] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[7] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[2] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[3] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annex I.

[4] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annex II.

[5] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[6] Ibid., annex II.

[7] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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Plan of Implementation),[8] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[9] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[10] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[11] the outcome document of the 2010 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[12] the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[13] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[14] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013,[15]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[16]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Expressing concern that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition

[8] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[9] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[10] Resolution 60/1.

[11] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[12] Resolution 65/1.

[13] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[14] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[15] Resolution 68/6.

[16] Resolution 66/288, annex.

require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty and inequity, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition,

Reaffirming the importance of supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Welcoming the outcome of the forty-third session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 17 to 21 October 2016,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and improving nutrition outcomes,

Recalling the declaration of 2016-2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and the call upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to identify and develop a work programme for 2016-2025, taking into account contributions from all stakeholders worldwide, using coordinating mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security,

Reaffirming the outcomes adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015,

Reaffirming also that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, and noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism and the commitments to comprehensive negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect, as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme,[1] the framework adopted by the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005,

Reaffirming further the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right

[1] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, youth, older persons, indigenous peoples, people living in rural areas, people living in conflict and post-conflict situations, local communities and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations,

Remaining deeply concerned that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, nearly 800 million people around the world are undernourished, global nutrition challenges are increasingly complex and most countries are burdened by multiple forms of malnutrition, including stunting, wasting, underweight, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity, which may coexist within the same country, household or individual,

Noting that an increasing number of countries, in particular in Africa, Asia and Latin America, are integrating food security and nutrition into their agriculture policies and investment plans and, as a result, eradicating hunger and ensuring nutrition is being given greater prominence in regional development strategies, such as the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations food security and nutrition strategy and the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, all of which emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, diversifying food production and diets and providing quality nutritional education to consumers, introducing labour-saving technologies in food production and processing, enhancing women's access to income, and strengthening capacity-building in improving food safety at all stages of the food chain,

Remaining deeply concerned about the continuing food insecurity and malnutrition being faced by millions of people, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia,

Reiterating the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, as well as the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition,

Reiterating also the importance, inter alia, of empowering rural women, youth and smallholder and family farmers and fishers as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and improving nutrition outcomes,

Welcoming the implementation of the International Year of Pulses, 2016, and noting the need to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses and to further sustainable agriculture,

Recognizing the need to increase public and private investment in the agriculture sector, inter alia, to fight hunger and malnutrition and to promote rural and urban sustainable development,

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and its guiding principles,[18] and recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs,

Recalling also that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that reaching Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals will be critical, inter alia, in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[19]

2. *Stresses* the importance of continued consideration of the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition, and encourages States and all stakeholders to give due consideration to this issue while implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[20] and its Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Emphasizes* that agricultural production, food security and nutrition are key elements for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and calls for greater efforts to enhance the agricultural production capacities, productivity and food security of developing countries;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries' determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation, as an inclusive process, with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges States, especially those affected, to make food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to intensify its support for the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme and its results framework, which is an integral component of the Programme that provides guidance on planning and implementing investment programmes;

6. *Encourages* States, in designing their national policies, to fully take into account the Rome Declaration on Nutrition[7] as well as the Framework for Action,[8] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for the use of Governments, as appropriate;

[18] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[19] A/71/283.

[20] Resolution 70/1.

7. *Welcomes* the increased political commitment by States to tackle hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in this regard welcomes the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and encourages States to engage in the movement at the global and country levels to further reduce global hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in particular in women, especially pregnant and lactating women, and children under age 2;

8. *Takes note* of the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact, signed by more than 100 countries, companies and civil society organizations, to reduce the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and the financial commitments made to support this goal, as well as the second Nutrition for Growth event, which was held in August 2016;

9. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge and the aim of a world free from hunger, and recognizes the progress made in improving cooperation, coordination and coherence by all stakeholders to overcome the challenges of hunger and malnutrition;

10. *Stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including by improving and aiming to ensure the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing public and private investment, in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, and notes that the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement should also reach, where appropriate, local smallholders with regard to promoting food security, improving nutrition outcomes and reducing inequality;

11. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of food and agricultural production to climate change, bearing in mind the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, and measures to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

12. *Reaffirms* the need to promote, enhance and support more sustainable agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security;

13. *Recognizes* that food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition, and welcomes the formulation and implementation of national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming food systems so as to make nutritious diets available to all, while

reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition;

14. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable agriculture, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for enhancing food security and access to adequate, safe and nutritious food and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly inhabitants of small island developing States;

15. *Encourages and recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

16. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower women, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions of work, and to guarantee their personal security, full access to land and natural resources and access to local, regional and global markets;

17. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and undernutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

18. *Recognizes* the important role of indigenous peoples, local communities, smallholder farmers and fishers and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

19. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security and nutrition, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, which will lead to rich payoffs across the Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities by, inter alia, enhancing access for agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, youth, indigenous peoples, and local communities and peoples living under foreign occupation, in conflict and post-conflict situations and in vulnerable situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for development of local crops, efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

20. *Underscores* the growing need to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition among the urban poor;

21. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition, and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

22. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, in order to ensure food security and nutrition and promote sustainable agricultural development;

23. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security and nutrition, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers, especially smallholder farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

24. *Also stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, including with the support of the Secretary-General's High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

25. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of such systems should be strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

26. *Stresses* that, in the context of sustainable food production systems, food loss and waste continues to be a serious concern, but is also an opportunity for action that can have a significant effect on the sustainability of food systems, and recognizes that global food loss and waste is a major contributor to climate change and accounts for around 8 per cent of total global greenhouse gas emissions, and that nearly 30 per cent of the world's agricultural land is currently occupied to produce food that is ultimately never consumed by people; in terms of energy usage, 38 per cent of total energy consumption in global food systems is utilized to produce food that is ultimately lost or wasted;

27. *Reaffirms* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a key organ in addressing the issue of global food security and nutrition, and notes the role that the Committee could play in support of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition;

28. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition".